

## Feedback on amendments to Auckland Transport's Election Signs Bylaw

**From: Waitematā Local Board**

Date: 22 June 2017

### Background

The election signs bylaw sets out provisions to regulate election signs to be displayed on specified public sites, on vehicles, and on private sites. The main purpose of the bylaw is to ensure that safety issues are considered and amenity values are retained when candidates erect election signs.

Auckland Transport proposes amending the bylaw to clarify controls relating to the display of election signs. It will also remove the present restriction limiting the display of election signs to the nine week period preceding a general election, local election or election for the Auckland Energy Consumer Trust.

### Waitematā Local Board Feedback:

The Waitematā Local Board provides the following feedback in relation to Auckland Transport's proposed amendments to the Election Signage Bylaw:

#### What do you think about the proposed amendments?

We do not support the proposed amendments to remove clause 7 (aa) which restricts election signs to only be displayed for 9 weeks before election day. Currently parks and open spaces suffer from signage clutter, from both permitted and illegal signage. Public reserves are not an appropriate place for permanent political messaging. Removal of signs during previous election cycles has not been prompt enough, and this does not need to be extended further. Signs are visual pollution and impact on other users of the space. Although most people tolerate election signs for 9 weeks before an election to raise awareness and knowledge about the election and candidates, near permanent signs would generate widespread antipathy and a likely campaign get rid of them entirely.

We do not support the proposed amendments to clause 7 (o) regarding the use of signs which have lights, lasers or illumination where that illumination may adversely affect the amenity of the surrounding area or traffic safety. These edits make the clause ambiguous and open to challenge as they only restrict illuminated signs that may adversely affect amenity, or traffic safety.

We do support the proposed changes to clause 7 (m) which clarifies that changeable signs are not permitted.

#### What changes would you make to the proposed amendments?

Re-instate clause (aa) which restricts election signs to only be displayed for 9 weeks before election day.

Include in the list of election sign sites for Waitematā Local Board area a time restriction, for election signs located on specified public sites.

Amend clause 7 (o) to restrict the use of flashing or revolving lights, lasers, or any other method of illumination.

#### Would you like to see any additional amendments?

No.

## Authorisation



Pippa Coom  
Chair

Waitematā Local Board  
Date: 26 June 2017

## Contact Details

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